



## CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

*as of August 26, 2009:*

- Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.:** Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) employees have processed more than 5 percent of the mustard agent-filled chemical munitions stored in the igloos at Anniston Army Depot. Westinghouse, the ANCDF systems contractor team, surpassed 1 million man-hours without a recordable injury. Site management officials note that going seven months – mid-January to mid-August – without a recordable injury is testimony to the dedication and safety culture of the ANCDF work force.
- Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah:** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility has safely destroyed 3,963 mustard agent-filled ton containers, 54,453 mustard agent-filled 155 mm projectiles and 336 mustard agent-filled 4.2-inch mortars. Mustard operations began in August 2006.
- Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.:** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF) workers continue closure operations. The unventilated monitoring test (UMT) was the week of Aug. 23. The NECDF demolition subcontractor has demolished the above ground portion of the Process Auxiliary Building and is also demolishing the foundation slab. Work will begin on the Utility Building after a successful UMT.
- Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Ark.:** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility's (PBCDF) URS/EG&G employees surpassed two million consecutively worked man-hours without a lost day from work on June 17. A lost day from work is when an employee misses one or more full days from work. The PBCDF Field office, comprised of employees from the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency, the U.S. Army Sustainment Command and Science Applications International Corporation, has worked nearly nine years without a recordable injury and more than 11 years without a lost day from work. This week, PBCDF surpassed two million pounds of cumulative mustard agent safely processed since the start of the ton container campaign. PBCDF processed a campaign record of 63 ton containers two weeks in a row.
- Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.:** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility workers continue with sampling and processing mustard agent ton containers in preparation for agent trial burns. On Aug. 20, Bob Flournoy, chairman of the Oregon Chemical Demilitarization Citizens Advisory Commission, stepped down for health reasons. He received a letter of appreciation from Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski and an Award for Superior Service from Carmen Spencer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Elimination of Chemical Weapons).

## Flying High: New Flags Symbolize TOCDF's Commitment to Safety

Three new flags fly outside the Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (TOCDF) — an American flag flanked by the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) star worksite flags. The flags serve as a constant reminder of what employees have achieved and what is expected of them as they destroy the remaining stockpile of chemical weapons stored at Deseret Chemical Depot (DCD).

More than two years ago, TOCDF's systems contractor, EG&G Defense Materials, and its lab and monitoring subcontractor, Battelle Memorial Institute, envisioned the flags flying over the TOCDF and applied for the VPP of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). As part of the extensive VPP application process, an OSHA team of experts completed an audit of TOCDF in February, observing firsthand employee commitment to safety. The auditing team was so impressed by what it saw that star status was granted — the highest achievable honor — to both companies.

"What you have accomplished here is exceptional and you should be very proud of that," said Brad Baptiste, OSHA's Region VIII VPP manager, during the formal VPP star status recognition celebration held Aug. 6, 2009, at the TOCDF. Baptiste participated in the audit and said every member of his team knew the TOCDF was a VPP star site after visiting the container handling building, where workers continuously embody a strong safety culture.

DCD Commander Col. Gerald L. Gladney, said the VPP star flags were proof that safety is not just a hollow phrase at the depot; it is a way of life. "I am truly proud of you, and you can be proud of yourselves," Gladney said to the crowd of more than 400 workers.

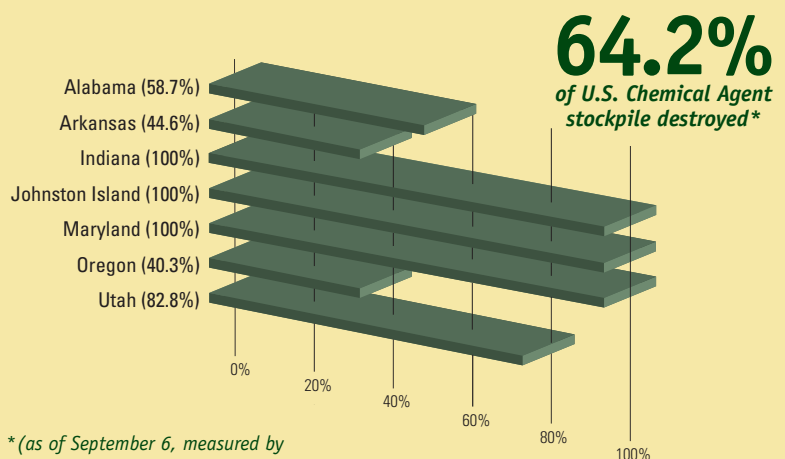
Additional well-wishers included Col. Robert Billington, project manager for the U.S. Army's Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) Chemical Stockpile Elimination (CSE), who offered his congratulations. "Achieving VPP star status is a tremendous achievement," Billington said. "You have prevented accidents and injuries by building a strong culture of excellence and safety and you have demonstrated a consistent commitment to continuous improvement as you safely destroy the stockpile."

TOCDF Site Project Manager Ted Ryba agreed, as he spoke about the transformation of TOCDF's attitude. He said there had been a belief that safety and productivity could not coexist, until a series of events, including an environmental stand down and 60 days of lost production, led to a new movement that placed equal value on both.

"I want to add my congratulations to a tremendous accomplishment of achieving OSHA VPP star status," Ryba said. "Keep up the great work. That's going to be our continued expectation."

Disposal efforts started at the TOCDF on Aug. 22, 1996, and approximately 83 percent of DCD's stockpile — the single-largest stockpile in the country — has been destroyed.

## CMA - U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED



*\*(as of September 6, measured by  
original agent tonnage since  
entry into force – April 29, 1997)*



### NSCMP's Explosive Destruction System Continues Nationwide Success



Greg Nielson, Explosive Destruction System operations project manager for the Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project, explains EDS operations to then-Dugway Proving Ground Commander Col. Robert Jones Jr., and DPG Sgt. Maj. Robert McKenzie. Photo by Al Vogel, West Desert Test Center, Dugway Proving Ground

The U.S. Army Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP) completed another successful treatment mission in July at Dugway Proving Ground (DPG), Utah, destroying recovered chemical warfare projectiles and bomblets with its transportable Explosive Destruction System (EDS).

Stored in a secured igloo at DPG for a number of years, the security, monitoring and safety precautions of the chemical-filled items were costing the Army millions of dollars. NSCMP deployed the EDS more than 2,000 miles to a welcome audience at DPG.

"We're glad you're here," said DPG Commander Col. Robert Jones Jr. to the EDS operators. "This system is in high demand everywhere."

The EDS, which is operated by highly-trained personnel from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, uses cutting charges to explosively access chemical munitions, eliminating the explosive capacity before the chemical agent is neutralized.

The system's main component, a sealed, stainless steel vessel, contains all the blast, vapor and fragments from the process.

The items treated at DPG included recovered munitions filled with blister and nerve agent. Treatment was confirmed each time by sampling residual liquid and air from the vessel prior to reopening the EDS.

"This mission is another example of CMA's confident onsite treatment process, using the EDS," said Jeffrey Harris, Deputy Project Manager for NSCMP. "Our extensive research and development program keeps this system on its toes and mission-ready to handle a range of recovered chemical warfare treatment scenarios."

The EDS has successfully treated more than 1,500 munitions, maintaining a consistent, exceptional safety and environmental record.

### CMA Hosts 16<sup>th</sup> Environmental Forum

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) hosted its 16<sup>th</sup> Environmental Forum Aug. 25-26, 2009 at the Benson hotel in Portland, Ore. The Forum started with a meeting for environmental regulators and Citizens' Advisory Commission members from the various states with stockpiles on Tuesday, Aug. 25. Information products from CMA headquarters, as well as products from each site, were on display at a poster session where attendees mingled and informally discussed the status of the program as well as sites' progress.

The General Session held Wednesday, Aug. 26, focused on closure and lessons learned among the sites. A lunchtime speaker, Marty Bahamonde, shared his experiences as a public affairs representative for the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding Hurricane Katrina's landfall in New Orleans. Bahamonde was sent ahead of the storm to New Orleans to assess the situation. He sent numerous messages to his leadership regarding the dire situation in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina that went unheeded and later testified before Congress about the miscommunication evident during the hurricane.

The Environmental Forum is an opportunity for the community and regulators to meet CMA's government and contract employees helping to make the world a safer place by ridding the country of chemical weapons.



Jeanne Hawtin, Integration Liaison with Science Applications International Corporation, speaks with the guest speaker, Marty Bahamonde, from the Federal Emergency Management Agency during the poster session at the Environmental Forum

### JACADS Reaches Clean Closure



CMA representatives Steve Bushman and Cheryl Maggio flank EPA Region IX Associate Director, Waste Management Division Arlene Kabei and accept a ceremonial "JACADS Clean Closure" certificate marking EPA's agreement ending the Army's liability responsibility on Johnston Atoll. This signifies the end of the Army's Chemical Demilitarization Program's residency on Johnston Atoll which began contractually in 1982.